

REMARKS

This application is a continuation of Application No. 10/149,549, which has been allowed. The above preliminary amendments direct the claims to a particular embodiment of the invention for prosecution in this continuing application. It is readily apparent from the above amendments that no new matter is being added. Entry of these amendments is therefore respectfully requested prior to considering this application and issuing a first Action on the merits.

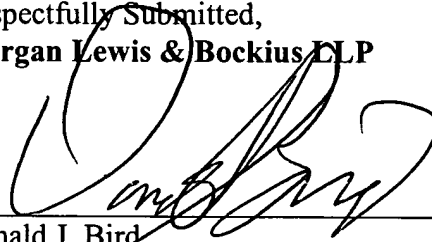
Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner's attention is called to the Information Disclosure Statement and form PTO-1449 being submitted herewith, on which is listed the documents submitted and considered in the parent application. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider those documents in this continuing application, and acknowledge such consideration by initialing and returning an initialed copy of the enclosed form PTO-1449 to the undersigned.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Director is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR
EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,
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Date: March 31, 2004
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